

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for production of a waterborne copolymer dispersion ~~characterized in, that wherein~~ that yielded copolymer comprises monomer units derived from at least one polymerisable hydrophobic allyl, vinyl, maleic or diene monomer having a water solubility of less than 0.001 g/l and [that] wherein said copolymer dispersion is obtained in an emulsion polymerisation performed in an aqueous media and in presence of 0.05-99.5% by weight, calculated on total amount of polymerisable monomers, of at least one dendritic polymer.
2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in,~~ ~~that wherein~~ that said emulsion polymerisation is a one or multi stage emulsion polymerisation.
3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 [or 2],
~~characterized in, that wherein~~ that said emulsion polymerisation is performed at atmospheric pressure using liquid monomers.

4. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 [or 2],
~~characterized in, that wherein~~ that said emulsion polymerisation is a pressure
polymerisation performed at a pressure of 1-200 bar, ~~such as 3-150 bar or 5-100~~
bar, using at least one gaseous monomer.

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the claims 1-4~~
~~characterised in, that claim 1, wherein~~ said dendritic polymer is a hydroxyfunctional
dendritic polyester, polyether, polyesteramide or polyetheramide.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 5 ~~characterised in,~~
~~that, wherein~~ said dendritic polymer is built up from a monomeric or polymeric core
molecule having at least one reactive hydroxyl or epoxide group and at least one
branching chain extender having at least two hydroxyl groups and at least one
carboxyl group.

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 5 ~~characterised in,~~
~~that, where~~ said dendritic polymer is built up from a monomeric or polymeric core
molecule having at least one reactive hydroxyl or epoxide group and at least one
branching chain extender having at least one hydroxyl group and at least one
oxetane group.

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 6 or 7 ~~characterised~~
~~in, that, wherein~~ said dendritic polymer has at least two dendritic generations.

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the claims 6-8 characterised in, that claim 6, wherein~~ said dendritic polymer is further chain extended by addition of at least one alkylene oxide, ~~such as ethylene oxide, propylene oxide and/or butylene oxide~~ at a molar ratio of hydroxyl groups to alkylene oxide of at least 1:40, ~~such as 1:20.~~

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the claims 6-9 characterised in, that claim 6, wherein~~ said dendritic polymer is further chain extended by addition of at least one chain extender having one hydroxyl group and one carboxyl group.

11. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the claims 6-10 characterised in, that claim 6, wherein~~ said dendritic polymer is partially chain terminated by addition of at least one chain stopper, ~~such as at least one saturated or unsaturated carboxylic acid or a corresponding anhydride or halide, and/or at least one carboxyfunctional ester, polyester, ether or polyether.~~

12. A method according to ~~any of the claims 1-11 characterised in, that claim 1, wherein~~ said at least one polymerisable hydrophobic monomer is at least one C₁₁-C₂₈-alkyl, ~~such as C₁₂-C₁₈-alkyl, acrylate, methacrylate or crotonate, such as lauryl or stearyl acrylate or methacrylate.~~

13. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the claims 1-12 characterised in, that claim 1, wherein~~ said copolymer additionally comprises monomer units derived from at least one C₁-C₁₀ alkyl acrylate, methacrylate or crotonate, such as methyl acrylate, ethyl acrylate, butyl acrylate, 2-ethylhexyl acrylate, methyl methacrylate, ethyl methacrylate and/or butyl methacrylate.

14. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the claims 1-12 characterised in, that claim 1, wherein~~ said copolymer additionally comprises monomer units derived from acrylic acid, methacrylic acid, crotonic acid, isocrotonic acid, itaconic acid, maleic anhydride and/or fumaric acid.

15. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the claims 1-12 characterised in, that claim 1, wherein~~ said copolymer additionally comprises monomer units derived from at least one glycidyl acrylate, glycidyl methacrylate and/or allyl methacrylate.

16. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the claims 1-12 characterised in, that claim 1, wherein~~ said copolymer additionally comprises monomer units derived from ethylene and/or propylene.

17. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the claims 1-12 characterised in, that claim 1, wherein~~ said copolymer additionally comprises monomer units derived from styrene and/or divinylstyrene.

18. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the claims 1-12 characterised in, that claim 1, wherein~~ said copolymer additionally comprises monomer units derived from vinyl acetate, vinyl propionate, vinyl versatate and/or dibutyl maleate.

19. (Currently Amended) A method according to any of the claims 1-12 ~~any of the claims 1-12 characterised in, that claim 1, wherein~~ said copolymer additionally comprises monomer units derived from butadiene and/or isoprene.

20. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the claims 1-12 characterised in, that claim 1, wherein~~ said copolymer additionally comprises monomer units derived from acryl amide, N-methylolacrylamide, N-methylolmethacrylamide, N-(iso-butoxymethyl)acrylamide, N-(n-butoxymethyl)acrylamide and/or imidazolidine methacrylate.

21. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the claims 1-12 characterised in, that claim 1, wherein~~ said copolymer additionally comprises monomer units derived from at least one di, tri or multifunctional ester of a di, tri or polyhydric alcohol and acrylic and/or methacrylic acid, ~~such as butanediol diacrylate, dipropylene glycol diacrylate, hexanediol diacrylate, tripropylene glycol diacrylate, butanediol dimethacrylate, ethylene glycol dimethactylat, diethylene glycol dimethacrylate, trimethylelp propane triacrylate, ethoxylated trimethylelp propane triacrylate and/or ethoxylated pentaerythriitol diacrylate.~~

22. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the claims 1-12 characterised in, that claim 1, wherein~~ said copolymer additionally comprises monomer units derived from at least one trialkoxyvinylsilane, alkyldialkoxy-vinylsilane, acryloxyalkoxysilane, acryloxyalkylalkoxysilane, alkoxyacrylsilane, methacryloxyalkoxysilane, methacryloxyalkylalkoxysilane and/or alkoxymethacrylsilane.

23. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the claims 1-22 characterised in, that claim 1, wherein~~ at least one chain transfer agent is present ~~[[s]] is~~ present during polymerisation of at least one said monomer.

24. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the claims 1-23 characterised in, that claim 1, wherein~~ said copolymer dispersion comprises at least one polymerisable surfactant and/or a conventional surfactant.

25. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of A coating composition comprising as a binder a waterborne copolymer dispersion obtained by the method of any of the claims 1-24, in binders for coatings, such as decorative and/or protective paints and lacquers, adhesives and glues~~ claim 1.